

21 August 1979

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File 04M-1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Regulations Control Branch,  
Information Systems Analysis Staff, DDA

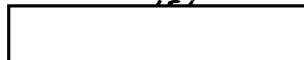
FROM:



Acting Executive Officer,  
Office of Medical Services

SUBJECT: Publication of Employee Bulletin

It is requested that the attached draft of  
"Voluntary Influenza Virus Immunization" be published as  
an All Employee Bulletin with a distribution date of not  
later than 27 August 1979.



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Att

✓cc: Executive Officer, DDA

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E M P L O Y E E   B U L L E T I N

VOLUNTARY INFLUENZA VIRUS IMMUNIZATION

1. The Office of Medical Services will administer immunizations against influenza from 8 October through 12 October 1979. This will be done on a voluntary basis and without cost to the employee. Employees will be polled by their administrative offices and will be advised of the time and place for the immunizations.

2. Influenza (flu) is caused by viruses. Symptoms include fever, chills, headache, dry cough and muscle aches. The illness may last from several days to a week or more, but complete recovery is normal. However, complications may lead to pneumonia or death in some people including the elderly and people with chronic illnesses such as diabetes, heart, lung or kidney disease. Influenza immunization is recommended for these individuals and individuals who provide essential community services.

3. The 1979-80 influenza virus vaccine is a trivalent vaccine containing A/Brazil, A/Texas and B/Hong Kong strains. Individuals who are 27 years of age and older will need one dose of the vaccine. Individuals who are 26 years of age and younger, who did not receive the vaccine last year, will need two doses of vaccine one month apart. Those individuals 26 years of age and younger who did receive one dose of vaccine last year will require only one dose.

4. The influenza virus for 1979-80 has been associated with few side effects. The most common side effect is redness and swelling at the site of injection. Occasionally fever, muscle ache and weakness may occur and lasts 1 to 2 days. Immediate allergic reactions (hives and respiratory expressions of hypersensitivity) to the vaccine have occurred, probably resulting from sensitivity to the residual egg protein in which the virus is grown. Therefore, individuals who are allergic to eggs should not receive the vaccine. Neurological symptoms have occurred in rare cases. Complete recovery is the usual case; however, in extremely rare instances, residual weakness or fatality may occur.

5. The Director of Medical Services recommends immunization as protection against influenza especially for older employees and those with heart, lung or kidney disease, diabetes mellitus or chronic metabolic disorders.

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